

## **Director's Report October 2011**

### **Got Questions?**

*What was the stock price for Dun & Bradstreet for a particular date in the 1970's?*

*How do I obtain box scores from local high school baseball games from the Washington Post in 1976?*

*Can you help me get started writing about "How can young entrepreneurs and the local governments of DC, MD, and VA work together to empower the next generation to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Greater Washington?"*

These are just a few of the questions asked by customers who use the library to get answers to detailed questions. Your public library is the place -- to find information -- to find resources -- to find expert help. Our librarians have lots of expertise in locating accurate and timely information.

Almost 65,000 people signed up for a Montgomery County public library card in fiscal year 2011. With their library card, they have access to thousands of books and other materials on a variety of topics. In addition to borrowing library materials, your library card allows you to use the library computers; download e-books, audiobooks, music and videos; and search electronic databases.

### **Fall Programs**

Come and celebrate autumn at Montgomery County Public Libraries. A variety of programs for all ages are happening at a library near you. Story time programs and puppet theater performances for young children and families will be presented at branch locations throughout Montgomery County.

In observance of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, the Friends of the Library, Bethesda Chapter will present a day of stories and lectures about the war at the library on October 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program is free and registration is not required.

### **SNAPSHOT: One Day in the Life of Montgomery County Public Libraries**

Thanks to our many customers, this year's "SNAPSHOT: One Day in the Life of Montgomery County Public Libraries" held on October 5 was a success. I would like to also thank our VIP Readers who delighted their young audiences with classic selections such as *Stone Soup*; favorite stories like *Caps for Sale* and *Ten Red Apples*; and energizing renditions of well-known stories such as *Nacho, Tito and Miguel* (Spanish version of *Three Little Pigs*). This year's VIP Readers included Councilmembers Phil Andrews, Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreen, Nancy Navarro, Hans Riemer and Craig Rice; Mary Kane, Director of Special Projects for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and Susan Heltemes, consultant for the American Library Association. Results of SNAPSHOT are now being compiled and will be released to the public in November.

### **A Word of Appreciation**

Montgomery County Public Libraries is pleased to have been selected as the beneficiary of this year's Montgomery County Executive's Ball for the Benefit of the Arts and Humanities. The

library was selected “in the spirit of expanding support to the broader community at a time of ongoing financial cutbacks [and] in recognition of [the library’s] 60th Anniversary.” The event, *One for the Books*, will be held at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center on Sunday, December 4, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The annual event helps support organizations that improve the quality of life in Montgomery County. For more information, please email [executiveball@gmail.com](mailto:executiveball@gmail.com) or call 301-589-3380.

I want to thank Mrs. Catherine Leggett and the Committee organizers for recognizing the importance of libraries in the lives of so many Montgomery County residents of all ages and backgrounds.

B. Parker Hamilton